## *Amendments to the Claims*

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1 - 35. (cancelled)

36. (currently amended) A method for the identification of ~~a candidate pharmacological agent to be used in the treatment of AD and/or symptoms thereof, wherein said~~ an agent that inhibits redox-reactive metal-mediated crosslinking of Aβ, said method comprising:

(a) obtaining a first Aβ sample and a second Aβ sample;

(b) adding a redox-reactive metal to said first Aβ sample;

(c) allowing said first sample to incubate for an amount of time sufficient to allow Aβ crosslinking;

(d) adding said redox-reactive metal to said second Aβ sample, said second sample additionally comprising a candidate ~~pharmacological~~ agent;

(e) allowing said second sample to incubate for the same amount of time as said first sample;

(f) removing an aliquot from each of said first and second samples; and

(g) determining presence or absence of crosslinking in said first and second samples, whereby an absence of Aβ crosslinking in said second sample as compared to said first sample indicates that said candidate ~~pharmacological~~ agent has inhibited Aβ crosslinking.

37. (previously presented) The method of claim 36, wherein at (g), a western blot analysis is performed to determine the presence or absence of crosslinking in the first and second samples.

38. (cancelled)

39. (new) The method of claim 36, wherein said first and second samples are a biological fluid.

40. (new) The method of claim 39, wherein said biological fluid is cerebrospinal fluid.

41. (new) The method of claim 36, wherein said redox-reactive metal is Cu(II) or Fe(III).

42. (new) A method for the identification of an agent that inhibits redox-reactive metal-mediated crosslinking Aβ, said method comprising:

(a) obtaining a first Aβ sample and a second Aβ sample;

(b) adding a redox-reactive metal to said first Aβ sample;

(c) allowing said first sample to incubate for an amount of time sufficient to allow Aβ crosslinking;

(d) adding said redox-reactive metal to said second Aβ sample, said second sample additionally comprising a candidate agent;

(e) allowing said second sample to incubate for the same amount of time as said first sample;

(f) removing an aliquot from each of said first and second samples; and

(g) determining presence or absence of crosslinking in said first and second samples, whereby an absence of Aβ crosslinking in said second sample as compared to said first sample indicates that said candidate agent has inhibited Aβ crosslinking;

wherein said first and second samples are cerebrospinal fluid and said redox-reactive metal is Cu(II) or Fe(III).